

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1515 – SB 1694

February 12, 2018

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Increases, from \$500 to \$1,500, the property damage threshold differentiating a class B misdemeanor from a class A misdemeanor for the offense of leaving the scene of the accident. Increases, from \$400 to \$1,500, the minimum property damage threshold for a motor vehicle accident that requires a written report to be filed with the Department of Safety (DOS).

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (012818): Adds language to the proposed legislation such that the only substantive change requires a written report to be submitted to DOS when state and local property damage occurs in an amount exceeding \$400.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Any decrease in expenditures for DOS as a result of any reduction in the number of accident reports filed with the department is estimated to be not significant.
- Increasing the property damage threshold for class B misdemeanors may result in fewer class A misdemeanors and additional class B misdemeanors.
- Any impact on the number of driver license revocations annually is estimated to be not significant.
- Any net impact on local revenue from fines, court costs, and other related fees is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-10-107, drivers are currently required to submit a written report of an accident when damage of property in excess of \$400 occurs. As a result, adding language regarding the reporting requirement for state and local property damage will not have any significant fiscal impact to state or local government.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/rbp